

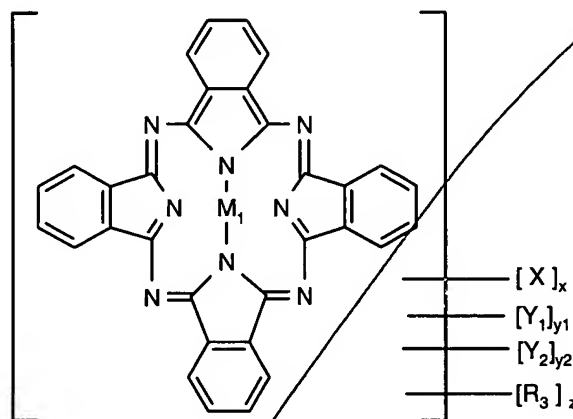
Please amend the above-identified patent application, without prejudice, as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1, 5, 6 and 7.

Amend claims 2, 3, 4 and 8-11 by replacement as follows:

2. (amended) A process according to claim 8 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula I



wherein

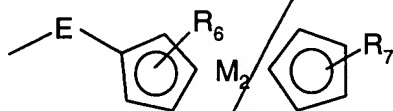
M<sub>1</sub> is a divalent metal, an oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or two hydrogen atoms,

A1 X is halogen

Y<sub>1</sub> is -OR<sub>1</sub>, -OOC-R<sub>2</sub>, -NHR<sub>1</sub>, -N(R<sub>1</sub>)R<sub>2</sub>,

Y<sub>2</sub> is -SR<sub>1</sub>,

R<sub>3</sub> is



R<sub>6</sub> and R<sub>7</sub> are each independently of the other hydrogen, halogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkoxy, amino-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl, diarylphosphine, or phosphorus-containing C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>alkyl,

x may be a rational number from 0 to 8

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$y_1$  and  $y_2$  may be each independently of the other a rational number from 0 to 6

$z$  may be a number from 1 to 4,

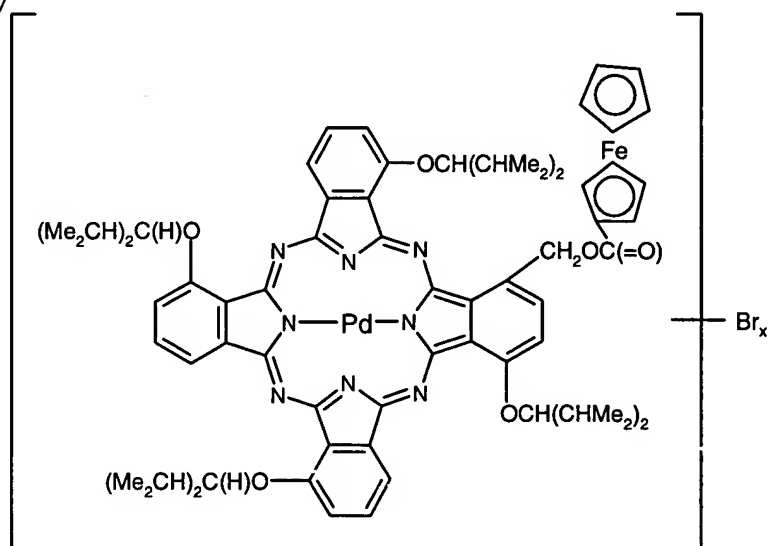
wherein  $(x + y_1 + y_2 + z)$  is  $\leq 16$ ,

and wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  may be each independently of the other

$C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkylamino or  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ dialkylamino and which may be interrupted by  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-NH-$  or  $-NR_{10}-$ , wherein  $R_{10}$  may be  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl,

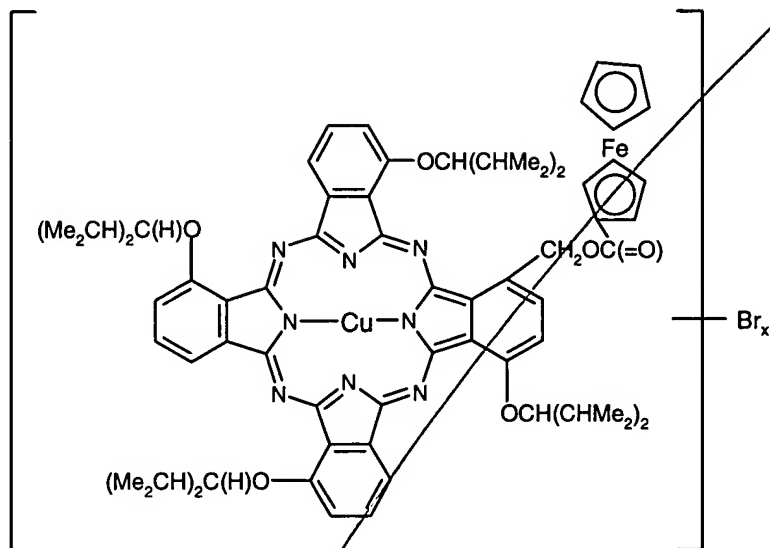
$C_5$ - $C_{20}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ alkenyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ alkynyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl or  $C_7$ - $C_{18}$ aralkyl, and wherein one or two ligands may optionally be bound to the divalent metal atom, the oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, and E being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of  $-CH_2-$ ,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-CH(C_1-C_4alkyl)-$ ,  $-C(C_1-C_4alkyl)_2-$ ,  $-NH-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-O-$  and  $-CH=CH-$ .

3. (amended) A process according to claim 8 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where  $x = 2.6$  to  $3.0$ , preferably  $2.7$  to  $2.9$ , more preferably  $2.8$

4. (amended) A process according to claim 8 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where  $x = 0$  to  $0.5$

8. (amended) A process for the manufacture of optical recording medium having at least one recording layer comprising the steps of

a) incorporating a metallocenyl-phthalocyanine or its metal complex of a divalent metal, oxometal, halogenometal or hydroxymetal, in which at least one of the four phenyl rings of the phthalocyanines contains, bound via a bridge unit E, at least one metallocene radical as substituent, E being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$ ,  $-\text{CH}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{alkyl})-$ ,  $-\text{C}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{alkyl})_2-$ ,  $-\text{NH}-$ ,  $-\text{S}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$  and  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$  into said recording layer.

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9. (amended) An optical recording medium, which comprises a metallocenyl-phthalocyanine or its metal complex of a divalent metal, oxometal, halogenometal or hydroxymetal, in which at least one of the four phenyl rings of the phthalocyanines contains, bound via a bridge unit E, at least one metallocene radical as substituent, E being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$ ,  $-\text{CH}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{alkyl})-$ ,  $-\text{C}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{alkyl})_2-$ ,  $-\text{NH}-$ ,  $-\text{S}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$  and  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ .

10. (amended) An optical recording medium, which consists essentially of a transparent substrate, a recording layer on that substrate, a reflection layer on the recording layer and, if desired, a final protective layer, the recording layer comprising a metallocenyl-phthalocyanine or its metal complex of a divalent metal, oxometal, halogenometal or hydroxymetal, in which at least one of the four phenyl rings of the phthalocyanines contains, bound via a bridge unit E, at least one metallocene radical as substituent, E being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of  $-\text{CH}_2-$ ,  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$ ,  $-\text{CH}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{alkyl})-$ ,  $-\text{C}(\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{alkyl})_2-$ ,  $-\text{NH}-$ ,  $-\text{S}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$  and  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ .

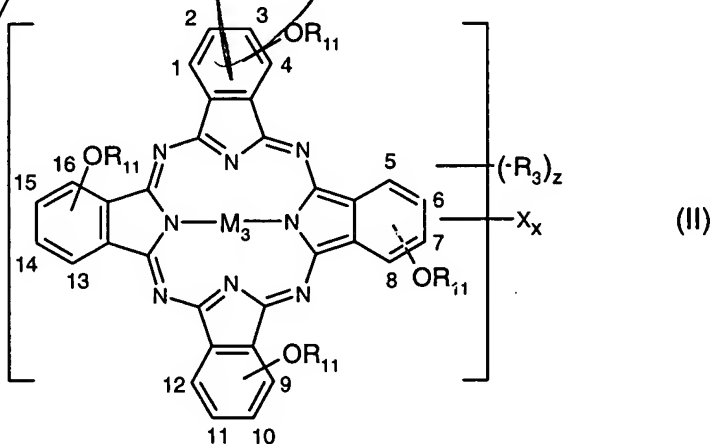
11. (amended) A process according to claim 8 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.

Insert new claims 12-23 as follows:

12. (new) A process for the manufacture of optical recording medium having at least one recording layer comprising the steps of

a) incorporating mixture, which comprises

(a) 60 to 95 mol % of a compound II

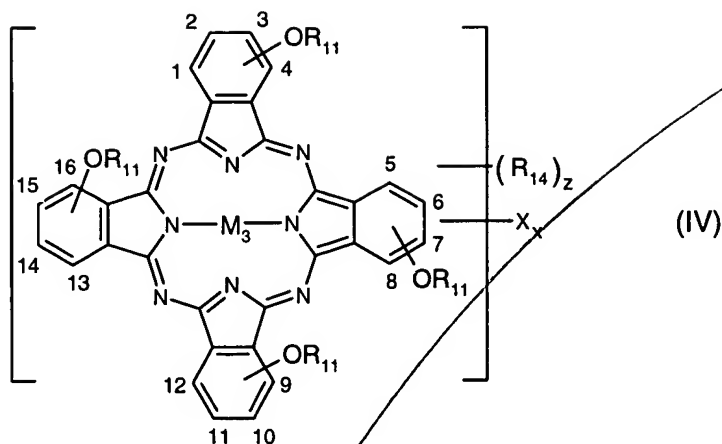


containing one radical  $\text{R}_3$  ( $z = 1$ ),

(b) 5 to 20 mol % of a compound II containing two radicals  $\text{R}_3$  ( $z = 2$ ),

and

(c) 0 to 25 mol % of a compound IV



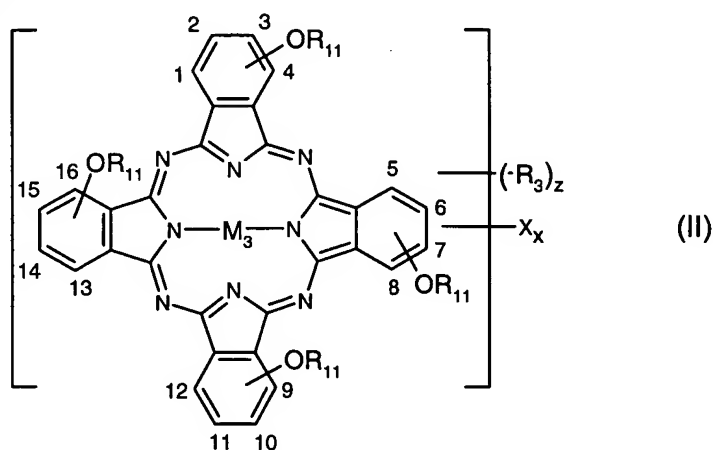
wherein  $-OR_{11}$ ,  $R_3 = R_{14}$ ,  $X$  and  $M_3$  each have the same meaning in formulae II and IV and are as defined in claim 2, the mol-% amounts making up 100% into said recording layer.

13. (new) A process according to claim 2 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.

14. (new) A process for the manufacture of optical recording medium having at least one recording layer comprising the steps of

a) incorporating a mixture, which comprises

(a) 60 to 95 mol % of a compound II

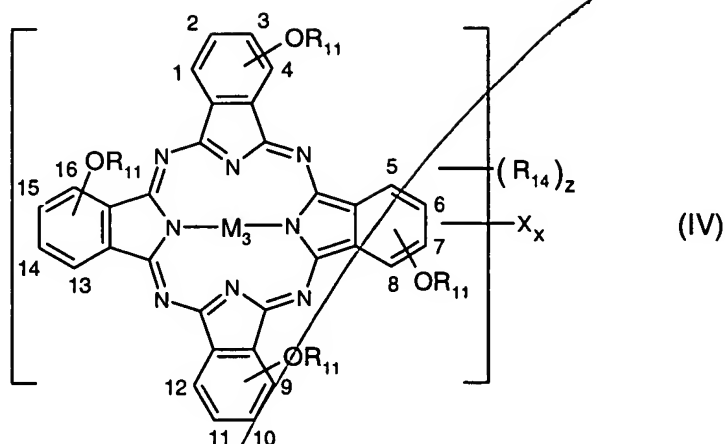


containing one radical  $R_3$  ( $z = 1$ ),

wherein  $R_{11}$  is  $C_1$ - $C_{12}$  alkyl and  $M_3$  is palladium or copper, and  $z$  is 1,

(b) 5 to 20 mol % of a compound II containing two  $R_3$  ( $z = 2$ ), and

(c) 0 to 25 mol % of a compound IV

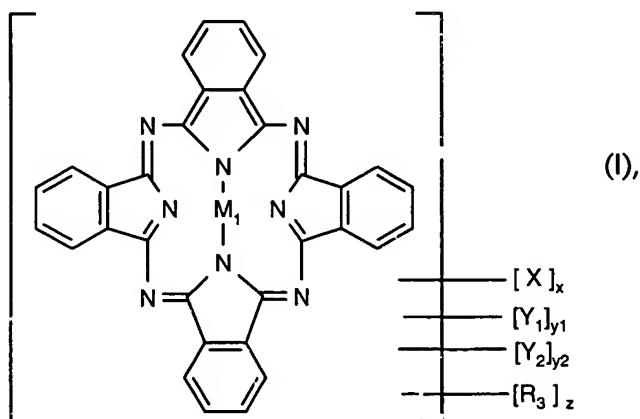


wherein  $R_{14}$  may be  $-\text{CHO}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ ,  $-\text{COOH}$ ,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{OC}(\text{O})-\text{C}_1-\text{C}_4\text{alkyl}$  or an acetal, and  $z$  may be 1 or 2,

wherein  $-\text{OR}_{11}$ ,  $R_3 = R_{14}$ ,  $X$  and  $M_3$  each have the same meanings in formulae II and IV and are as defined for claim 2, the mol-% amounts making up 100% into said recording layer.

15. (new) A process according to claim 14 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.

16. (new) An optical recording medium according to claim 9 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula I



wherein

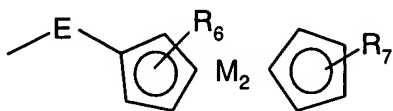
$M_1$  is a divalent metal, an oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or two hydrogen atoms,

X is halogen

$Y_1$  is  $-OR_1$ ,  $-OOC-R_2$ ,  $-NHR_1$ ,  $-N(R_1)R_2$ ,

$Y_2$  is  $-SR_1$ ,

$R_3$  is



$R_6$  and  $R_7$  are each independently of the other hydrogen, halogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy, amino- $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, diarylphosphine, or phosphorus-containing  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,

x may be a rational number from 0 to 8

$y_1$  and  $y_2$  may be each independently of the other a rational number from 0 to 6

z may be a number from 1 to 4,

wherein  $(x + y_1 + y_2 + z)$  is  $\leq 16$ ,

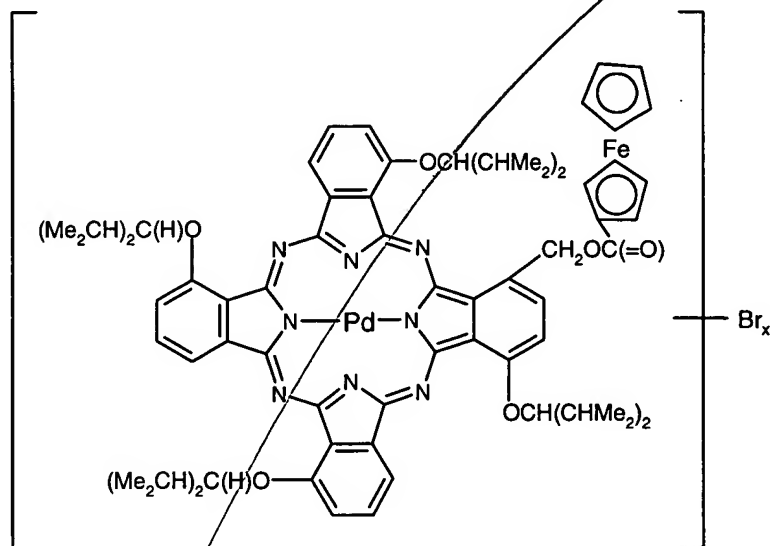
and wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  may be each independently of the other

$C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_{20}$ alkylamino or  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ dialkylamino and which may be interrupted by  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-NH-$  or  $-NR_{10}-$ , wherein  $R_{10}$  may be  $C_1$ - $C_6$ alkyl,

$C_5$ - $C_{20}$ cycloalkyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ alkenyl,  $C_5$ - $C_{12}$ cycloalkenyl,  $C_2$ - $C_{20}$ alkynyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{18}$ aryl or  $C_7$ - $C_{18}$ aralkyl,

and wherein one or two ligands may optionally be bound to the divalent metal atom, the oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, and E being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of  $-CH_2-$ ,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-CH(C_1-C_4alkyl)-$ ,  $-C(C_1-C_4alkyl)_2-$ ,  $-NH-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-O-$  and  $-CH=CH-$ .

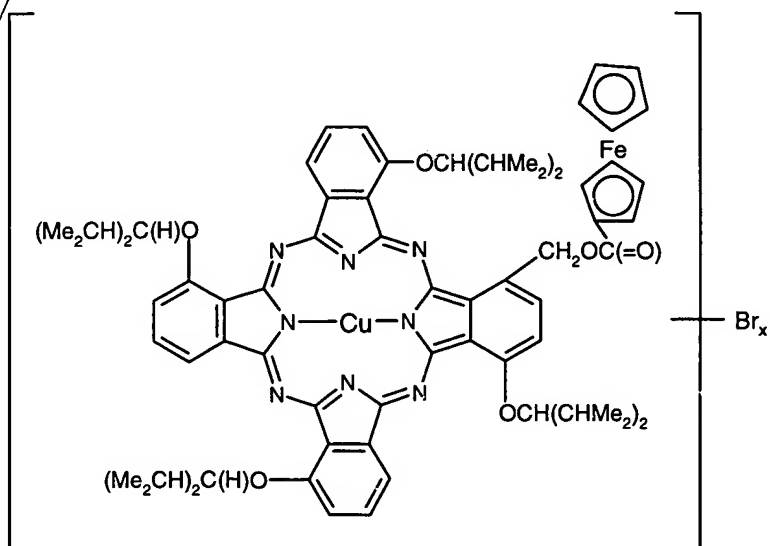
17. (new) An optical recording medium according to claim 9 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where  $x = 2.6$  to  $3.0$ , preferably  $2.7$  to  $2.9$ , more preferably  $2.8$

18. (new) An optical recording medium according to claim 17 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.

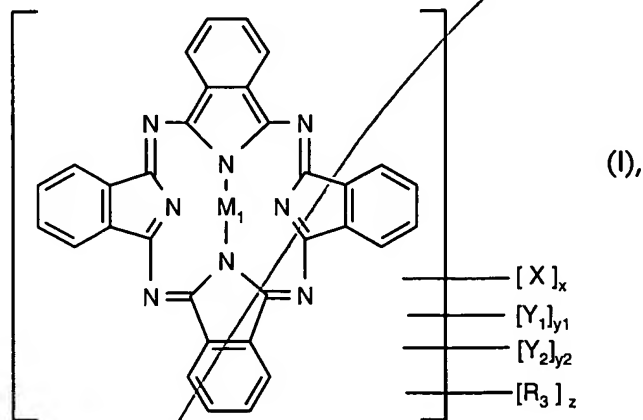
19. (new) An optical recording medium according to claim 9 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where  $x = 0$  to  $0.5$



20. (new) An optical recording medium according to claim 10 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula I



wherein

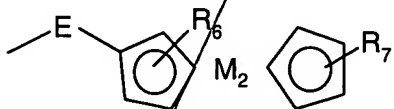
$M_1$  is a divalent metal, an oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, or two hydrogen atoms,

X is halogen

$Y_1$  is  $-OR_1$ ,  $-OOC-R_2$ ,  $-NHR_1$ ,  $-N(R_1)R_2$ ,

$Y_2$  is  $-SR_1$ ,

$R_3$  is



$R_6$  and  $R_7$  are each independently of the other hydrogen, halogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkoxy, amino- $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl, diarylphosphine, or phosphorus-containing  $C_1$ - $C_4$ alkyl,

x may be a rational number from 0 to 8

$y_1$  and  $y_2$  may be each independently of the other a rational number from 0 to 6

z may be a number from 1 to 4,

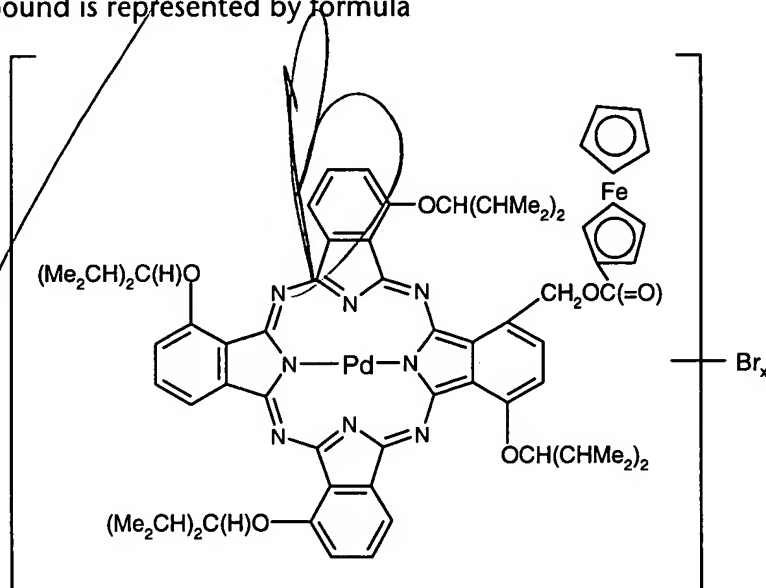
wherein  $(x + y_1 + y_2 + z) \leq 16$ ,

and wherein  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  may be each independently of the other

$C_1-C_{20}$  alkyl which is unsubstituted or substituted by halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1-C_{20}$  alkoxy,  $C_1-C_{20}$  alkylamino or  $C_2-C_{20}$  dialkylamino and which may be interrupted by  $-O-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-NH-$  or  $-NR_{10}-$ , wherein  $R_{10}$  may be  $C_1-C_6$  alkyl,

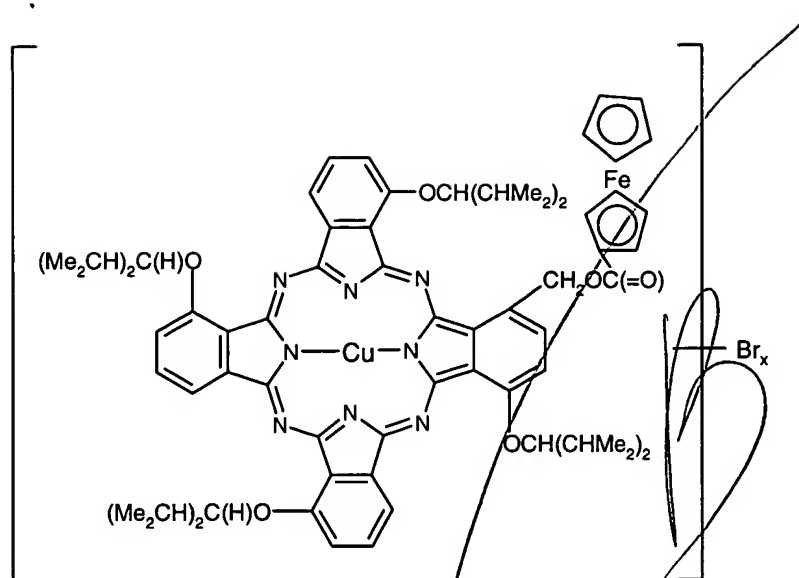
$C_5-C_{20}$  cycloalkyl,  $C_2-C_{20}$  alkenyl,  $C_5-C_{12}$  cycloalkenyl,  $C_2-C_{20}$  alkynyl,  $C_6-C_{18}$  aryl or  $C_7-C_{18}$  aralkyl, and wherein one or two ligands may optionally be bound to the divalent metal atom, the oxometal group, halogenometal group or hydroxymetal group, and E being composed of a chain of at least two members selected from the group consisting of  $-CH_2-$ ,  $-C(=O)-$ ,  $-CH(C_1-C_4\text{ alkyl})-$ ,  $-C(C_1-C_4\text{ alkyl})_2-$ ,  $-NH-$ ,  $-S-$ ,  $-O-$  and  $-CH=CH-$ .

21. (new) An optical recording medium according to claim 10 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



where  $x = 2.6$  to  $3.0$ , preferably  $2.7$  to  $2.9$ , more preferably  $2.8$

22. (new) An optical recording medium according to claim 10 wherein the metallocenyl-phthalocyanine compound is represented by formula



23. (new) An optical recording medium according to claim 22 wherein the optical recording medium is a DVD, a diffractive-optical element or medium for recording a hologram.